

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling traffic load by a base station controller in a mobile radio network, taking account of traffic processing capacity of a base station controlled by said base station controller, said method comprising the steps of:

~~receiving~~said base station signaling to said base station controller one or more limits related to said processing capacity of a base station, wherein said one or more limits correspond to one or more parameters representative of said traffic load ~~of the network~~; and

~~controlling traffic to the base station according to said one or more limits~~said base station controller verifying, for said one or more parameters, if said corresponding limit has been reached.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein one of said parameters is associated with the number of radio links that can be established, and a corresponding limit is represented by a maximum number of radio links that can be established.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said maximum number of radio links is a maximum number of radio links that can be established in macrodiversity.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said maximum number of radio links is a maximum number of radio links that can be established in transmission diversity.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said maximum number of radio links is represented by a maximum number of radio resources that can be allocated.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein one of said parameters is associated with data rate for established radio links, and a corresponding limit is represented by a maximum data rate for the established radio links.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said maximum data rate is a maximum data rate in the up direction.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said maximum data rate is a maximum data rate in the down direction.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said maximum data rate is a maximum data rate for a first type of traffic, for which a first type of error correcting code is used.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said maximum data rate is a maximum data rate for a second type of traffic, for which a second type of error correcting code is used.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein a first type of error correcting code is a turbo-code.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein a second type of error correcting code is a convolutional code.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said data rate is a net data rate.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said limits are considered on a per cell or a per base station basis.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said limits are considered per physical channel.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said limits are considered per type of physical channel.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein one type of physical channel is a dedicated physical channel.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein one type of physical channel is a common physical channel.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) A base station for a mobile radio network, comprising:

means for signaling one or more limits in its processing capacity to a base station controller that controls said base station, said limits corresponding to one or more parameters representative of traffic load; and

means for receiving traffic control signals from said base station controller, said traffic control signals being determined according to said limits.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A base station controller for a mobile radio network, said base station controller comprising:

means for receiving from a base station under its control, one or more limits in the processing capacity of said base station, corresponding to one or more parameters representative of traffic load; and

means for verifying if, for said one or more parameters representative of traffic load, said corresponding limit is reached.

25. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said processing capacity limits comprise a maximum number of radio links that can be established, a first maximum data rate for a first type of traffic, for which a first type of error correcting code is used and a second maximum data rate for a second type of traffic, for which a second type of error correcting code is used.

26. (New) The base station according to claim 21, wherein said processing capacity limits comprise a maximum number of radio links that can be established, a first maximum data rate for a first type of traffic, for which a first type of error correcting code is used and a second maximum data rate for a second type of traffic, for which a second type of error correcting code is used.

27. (New) The base station controller according to claim 24, wherein said processing capacity limits comprise a maximum number of radio links that can be established, a first

maximum data rate for a first type of traffic, for which a first type of error correcting code is used and a second maximum data rate for a second type of traffic, for which a second type of error correcting code is used.